



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 8406



Offered by:

REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.

SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **303**

File No. 147

Cal. No. 607

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE STATE-WIDE RESPONSE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
4 to study the state-wide response to minors exposed to family violence.
5 Such study shall include, but not be limited to, (1) an examination of
6 existing policies and procedures used by the Department of Children
7 and Families, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
8 Services, health care professionals, law enforcement, guardians ad
9 litem, attorneys for minor children and the Judicial Branch for minors
10 who are exposed to family violence, and (2) the development of a state-
11 wide model policy for use by (A) the Department of Children and
12 Families, including organizations with which it contracts services; (B)
13 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, including
14 organizations with which it contracts services; (C) health care

15 professionals; (D) guardians ad litem; (E) attorneys for minor children;
16 (F) law enforcement; and (G) the Judicial Branch, when responding to
17 minors who are exposed to family violence.

18 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the
20 commissioner's designee;

21 (2) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or
22 the commissioner's designee;

23 (3) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's
24 designee;

25 (4) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
26 or the commissioner's designee;

27 (5) The Child Advocate, or the Child Advocate's designee;

28 (6) The Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's
29 designee;

30 (7) The Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
31 designee;

32 (8) A chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General
33 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children;

34 (9) A chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General
35 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services;

36 (10) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
37 of whom shall represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic
38 Violence and one of whom shall be an attorney licensed to practice law
39 in Connecticut;

40 (11) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,

41 one of whom shall represent the Connecticut Children's Medical
42 Center and one of whom shall represent a multidisciplinary team
43 established pursuant to section 17a-106a of the general statutes;

44 (12) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of
45 whom shall represent the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association and
46 one of whom shall be an adult victim of domestic violence;

47 (13) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
48 Representatives, one of whom shall represent a designated child
49 advocacy center and one of whom shall be a medical doctor
50 specializing in the care of children exposed to family violence;

51 (14) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of
52 whom shall be a currently appointed guardian ad litem and one of
53 whom shall be a psychiatrist or psychologist specializing in the mental
54 health care of children exposed to family violence;

55 (15) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
56 Representatives, one of whom shall be a youth victim exposed to
57 family violence and one of whom shall be a currently appointed
58 attorney for the minor child; and

59 (16) Two appointed by the Chief Court Administrator, one of whom
60 shall be a judge of the Superior Court assigned to hear family matters
61 and one of whom shall represent the Judicial Branch Court Support
62 Services Division.

63 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivisions (10)
64 to (15), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of
65 the General Assembly.

66 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
67 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
68 filled by the appointing authority.

69 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president

70 pro tempore of the Senate shall select two chairpersons of the task
71 force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons
72 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held
73 not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

74 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
75 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
76 services shall serve as the administrative staff of the task force.

77 (g) Not later than January 15, 2016, the task force shall submit a
78 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
79 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
80 relating to human services and children, in accordance with the
81 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall
82 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 15, 2016,
83 whichever is later."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section